

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### **Mastercraft Industries, Inc.**

#### **Northwest Wisconsin Manufacturing Outreach Center**

#### **Mastercraft Cleans House and Goes Lean**

##### **Client Profile:**

Mastercraft Industries, Inc. is a privately-owned manufacturer of special-order, custom-designed kitchen and bathroom cabinets. The 60-year-old company employs 250 people at its facility in Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

##### **Situation:**

Mastercraft Industries had collected a lot of clutter on the manufacturing floor and needed to incorporate Lean principles into their processes and "clean house." Owner Matt Daniels worked with the Northwest Wisconsin Manufacturing Outreach Center (NWMOC), a NIST MEP network affiliate, in the past and returned for help with 5S projects and additional Lean initiatives.

##### **Solution:**

NWMOC Project Managers conducted three Lean 101 on-site workshops as well as Lean Tools for the Office. After completing more than 30 5S projects, two set-up reductions, and one Value Stream Map, Mastercraft Industries reports positive, measurable impacts. According to Daniels, "We are now focused on implementing 5S throughout the factory. Inventory levels at workstations have been reduced from weeks and months to just 5 day's worth. And, the employees appreciate their cleaner and safer work environment."

##### **Results:**

- \* Reduced set-up time by 50 percent.
- \* Increased production time.
- \* Reduced floor space requirements by 15 percent.
- \* Reduced order processing time by 73 percent, from 16 days to 4.25 days.
- \* Improved employee morale.

##### **Testimonial:**

"Northwest Wisconsin Manufacturing Outreach Center is very effective. They bring real-world experience but remain flexible enough to apply Lean principles that are customized for our business."

Matt Daniels, Lean Facilitator